

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all previous claims, and listings of claims, in the application.

1-6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended): A warm molding method comprising: ~~the step of using the warm molding raw material powder according to Claim 1.~~

attaching a powder consisting of a hydroxyl fatty acid salt having an average particle diameter of 50 µm or less on a forming surface of a mold; and
using a warm molding raw material powder in powder metallurgy. the warm molding raw material powder comprising a lubricant which consists of a hydroxyl fatty acid salt having an average particle diameter of from 5 µm to 100 µm in a range of from 0.3 wt% to 2 wt%.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Currently amended): The warm molding method according to Claim 8 7, wherein the hydroxy fatty acid salt is a hydroxy fatty acid lithium.

10. (Original): The warm molding method according to Claim 9, wherein the hydroxy fatty acid lithium is hydroxy lithium stearate.

11. (Previously presented): The warm molding method according to Claim 10, wherein the hydroxy lithium stearate is 12-hydroxy lithium stearate.

12. (New): The warm molding method according to Claim 7, wherein the warm molding raw material powder is heated up to a temperature of 150 to 190°C.

13. (New): The warm molding method according to Claim 7, wherein the hydroxy fatty acid salt is a hydroxy stearic acid salt.

14. (New): The warm molding method according to Claim 13, wherein the hydroxy stearic acid salt is hydroxy lithium stearate.

15. (New): The warm molding method according to Claim 14, wherein the hydroxy lithium stearate is 12-hydroxy lithium stearate.